How Civil Rights Workers Were Tortured in Natchez, P. 2

No Sooner Had Joseph Alsop Announced That Ambushes Were A Thing of the Past

"The grimmest aspect of it is that bombers and fighters, coming so swiftly to the rescue of almost any government post that the VC threaten, repeatedly transform well-laid, well-executed plans for sudden surprise attacks into perfect massacres of the attackers."

—Alsop from Saigon in N.Y. Herald Tribune Oct. 6.

"A Viet Cong jungle ambush yesterday killed or wounded every member of a U.S. 1st Division Infantry squad of about 12 men returning from a night patrol 15 miles northeast of Saigon. Another American patrol tried to rescue the ambushed outfit. But by the time it reached the scene the Communists had escaped."

—Same Paper, Same Day.

"Saigon—Vietcong guerrillas wiped out the entire lead patrol of an American paratrooper company that walked into an ambush about 30 miles north of here today. The company commander was wounded and dead and wounded were strewn all over the road. It was the third guerrilla ambush of American troops within four days in the jungle covered area." ***—Reuters in Washington Post, Oct. 11.***

I. F. Stone's Weekly

VOL. XIII, NO. 34 OCTOBER 18, 1965 WASHINGTON, D. C. 15 CENTS

From the Black Man's Point of View

From the black man's point of view, the world picture is not a pleasant one. In England, despite the promise of a multi-racial Commonwealth, the unwelcome sign is up for colored peoples. The Labor Party, long the champion of the colored man and of anti-colonialism, has passed the first legislation restricting colored immigration, and done so under clear pressure from white prejudice. While in England colored men are not wanted even in a precarious minority status, white minorities still rule the south of Africa. Rhodesia is following the path of South Africa, which means keeping the black man an outcast in his own Continent. Portugal holds vast neighboring territories on the same basis.

Colonialism Makes A Come-Back

This was supposed to be the century that would see the end of colonialism. The five centuries since the discovery of America were a period during which white men, thanks to superior firepower and technology, disrupted and plundered colored men's empires and societies from Mexico and Peru to India and China. In this century the white Europeans, weakened by two civil wars which we call World Wars, have been forced to give up most of their colonial possessions. But now again superior firepower and technology seem to be giving the white presence in Asia, Africa and Latin America a comeback. In this perspective, the vast deployment of firepower in Vietnam is a foretaste of what American capitalism can do wherever its power is challenged. Already in Peru, where 2,000,000 whites rule and exploit 12,000,000 miserable mestizoes and Indians, the helicopters and napalm we supply the Latin military have been used to burn up rebellious Indian mountain villages and guerrillas. Our junior partner, Britain, is imposing naked military rule on Aden at the tip of the Arabian peninsula in order to maintain a "lifeline of empire" across the Indian Ocean to Singapore. We let the British know that the price of dollar aid for the pound is that Britain shall hold up its end of keeping these vast waters a white imperialist sea.

A neo-colonialist American Century is taking shape. The signs of it are clear in Latin America. There our alliance with the Brazilian military is seen as a menace by democratic elements. The recent gubernatorial elections were a defeat for the military and for the banker-led conservatives who sought fiscal stability at the expense of Brazil's poorer classes. The military must now move with our help to more repressive measures or see the return of reformist elements to power. The Brazilian military are our only major ally in our drive for an inter-American force which can be used elsewhere as it was in the Dominican Republic. The extent to which this is feared is little realized in our own country. In Santiago, Chile, last week the Latin American Parliament, composed of legislators from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, El Salvador, Uruguay and Peru, rejected the Selden resolution thesis that we have a right to intervene in the hemisphere against governments we consider too Leftist. This means the attempt to perpetuate the privileged position of small white oligarchies and foreign white investors over Negro and Indian mixed peoples, hardly risen above serfdom.

At home the black man must wonder why he must be sent to safeguard the right of self-determination in Vietnam. There are jungles closer home. The South has become a

(*Continued on Page Four*)

How Africans Feel About Rhodesia

"Our memory is not so short as to make us oblivious to happenings in Kenya before our independence. We had a strong settler minority government in power. Our repeated efforts for representation in the Government and demands for independence were met with nothing but evasions. Constitutional niceties and legal trivialities were the stock official answer of the United Kingdom Government for many years. When at last we were forced to take up arms against the settler government of the day, the United Kingdom Government acted with haste and declared a state of emergency. Thousands of British troops were flown to Kenya to maintain the so-called law and order. This time it was to enforce "law and order" among a rebellious African population. Why does the British government hesitate to maintain "law and order" among the rebellious white settler minority in Rhodesia?"

—Murumbi (Kenya) UN General Assembly, Oct. 7.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Two New Incidents Show That When It Comes to Subverting Our Free Institutions —

The FBI and the CIA Do A Better Job Than Any Soviet "Disinformation" Bureau

Admiral Wm. F. Raborn, the new head of the CIA, has been making the rounds on Capitol Hill, trying to discourage proposals to establish a Congressional watchdog committee to supervise CIA activities. He has taken Congressional critics to lunch and sought to represent criticism of the CIA and the FBI as a Communist plot. He has circulated a memorandum purporting to show that since 1948 a major "disinformation" campaign has been launched from Moscow to discredit U.S. intelligence agencies. The memorandum, at first confidential, was finally put in the Congressional Record Sept. 28 by Congressman Price (*D. Ill.*) at p. 24477.

McCarthy Style Selected Quotation

The major objectives of this supposed campaign are to "destroy the confidence of the Congress and the American public in U.S. personnel and agencies engaged in anti-Communist and cold war activity," "to undermine American prestige and democratic institutions" and to "sow distrust" of the U.S. in Latin America and "the new nations of Africa and Asia." The memorandum is rubbish and reflects the paranoia characteristic of all spy systems, our own included. It is intended to smear and silence critics. It singles out critical books like "The Invisible Government" by David Wise and Thomas B. Ross and links them with Soviet propaganda by McCarthy-style selected quotation. The memorandum claims that Moscow concocts forgeries to smear the CIA and the FBI. For all we know maybe it does. But can anything Moscow concocts equal what our intelligence agencies themselves do "to undermine . . . American institutions?" We cite two new examples:

In Federal Court in New York City last week a San Francisco schoolteacher, Richard D. Rieman, was summoned by the government as a witness in its prosecution of three young radicals—Levi Laub, Stefan Morisot and Anatol Schlosser—for arranging a student trip to Cuba in 1963 in defiance of the State Department's travel ban. He testified that as a student at San Francisco State College, he was paid by the FBI to spy on campus organizations and activities. In court he said he renounced these past activities and declared "if there has been any wrongdoing, it has been the government's." Since he, too, is subject to prosecution for going to Cuba, he could have refused to testify against the others on Fifth amendment grounds. Instead he testified fully while claiming he repented his activities as an informer! Such are the corkscrew characters the FBI recruits. The lesson this affair teaches on every campus is an ugly one—that beneath the surface of a supposedly free society is an underworld of surveillance and corruption. The Czarist police spied on students this way. So does the Soviet police. And so does the FBI. We cannot imagine anything more truly subversive of faith in free institutions than these police state practices.

In the same category of the truly subversive is the Iron Curtain we operate to keep citizens in, and visitors out, if our intelligence agencies think contamination of ideas may occur. What Soviet canards could hurt us more in Latin America and the new countries of Asia and Africa than this travel ban trial itself?

Or what happened the same week to Dr. Cheddi Jagan. The former Prime Minister of British Guiana spoke at a teach-in at Toronto last week-end and was supposed to speak at the Berkeley teach-in Oct. 15-16. Dr. Jagan told an American student in British Guiana last summer he was willing to come here in the Fall for public speeches before his visa expired in December. On Sept. 23 he accepted the Berkeley invitation and arranged to fly from Canada after the Toronto teach-in. On Oct. 1 Dr. Jagan cabled that his visa had been cancelled. When the Vietnam Day Committee protested, it ran into the usual Kafkaesque fog. State Department denied it had cancelled the visa. It said the visa had expired automatically when Dr. Jagan left office because it was a diplomatic visa. When Dr. Jagan applied for a new visa, he found that our intelligence agencies classified him as a subversive under the Walter McCarran Act, and that he therefore could not be admitted without special waiver, which might take up to six months to obtain. So Dr. Jagan could speak in Canada but not in the U.S. The affair is calculated to provoke cynical comment in Canada and Latin America on the quality of our free institutions. What "disinformation" bureau in Moscow could match these self-inflicted black eyes?

The Sadistic Cruelties Inflicted on Arrested Demonstrators in Natchez, Miss.

Natchez, Miss.—Within the past five days, close to 500 people have been arrested in Natchez, Mississippi. Although news of the arrests received wide circulation, the brutalities which the prisoners were forced to endure during their stay in Parchman State Penitentiary have until now been kept secret.

James Herman Johnson, 20-year-old Alcorn College junior, states that upon arrival at Parchman, he was forced to disrobe and to allow his private parts to be examined by a police officer. Johnson was then pulled up by his beard so forcefully that some of the beard came off in the policeman's hand.

Phil Latsansky, 24-year-old white FDP volunteer from Seattle, Washington, gave this report: "After our arrival at Parchman, we were admitted to the maximum security building where we were stripped of all our clothing. Each of us was then forced to swallow approximately 8 ounces of laxative. Naked, we were herded into 2-man cells, with concrete floors and steel bunks minus mattresses. The windows directly opposite our cells were wide open and the air conditioning fans were on. The temperature dropped to the low 40's that evening. We were kept in this condition for approximately 38 hours.

Several hours later we were given our underwear, the only clothing any of us had throughout our stay. The prison guards were always insulting and constantly threatening. Several people were unable to bear the intense cold and broke down into intense fits of screaming and crying. The prison doctor arrived several hours after the victims were stricken and treated them rudely. In spite of the fact that we were all given heavy doses, we were given a sparse supply of toilet paper. The only reason for sending us to Parchman was the obviously sadistic one of degrading and dehumanizing us. We were constantly shivering from the intense cold.

—Press Release from SNCC in Natchez, Oct. 5.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

On the Timid Initiatives in Robert Kennedy's New Foreign Policy Speech

The Dogmas of the China Lobby Are Stronger Than the Voice of Rome

Senator Robert Kennedy's speech last Wednesday on foreign policy begins to thaw a little some of the frozen postures of U.S. policy. But it is disappointing that a young Senator, seeking to establish himself as a fresh and liberal voice in the field of foreign policy, is so reluctant to speak plainly. One wry sidelight is provided by his proposal that we support "family planning" for India. The Senator was not afraid to differ with the Pope on birth control, but he doesn't have the nerve to agree with the Pope's recent plea that UN membership be extended to all the nations now outside it. This was interpreted, without denial, as support for China's admission. But Kennedy went no farther than gingerly to suggest that we "explore new avenues of approach to the question of Communist China" and invite Peking to join in the disarmament talks. It is striking that not a single American Roman Catholic voice of any weight has dared support the Pope on this issue, or even discuss what he said. The dogmas of our China Lobby seem to be more sacrosanct than the voice of Rome.

Time to Call A Fraud A Fraud

Reluctance to speak plainly, was most evident in the most important part of the speech, which dealt with nuclear proliferation. The obstacle is our attempt to get the Soviet Union to sign a treaty against nuclear proliferation while giving the Germans a finger on the nuclear trigger. The Germans want this, and the Russians fear it, for the same reason: both see it as a first step toward making Germany a nuclear power. Kennedy suggests that all the nations concerned "rethink their positions."

This is all to the good, but it would be even better if the Senator talked frankly. The U.S. treaty is a fraud. It is a fraud on the Germans as well as the Russians because it provides for something no U.S. Senate is ever likely to agree to. There is not space here to go into the intricacies of this tricky treaty. But by its terms the only way the Germans could get what they want is if we or the British or the French agreed to merge nuclear forces with a European force in which Germany participated *and give up any veto over the use of the nuclear weapon.* No U.S. Senate would ever give up control over such life-and-death decisions for this country. The British and the French are no more disposed to do so. We only whet German appetite with something we would never give them anyway.

Kennedy is fond of using urgent quotations from the late President, his brother, but his own proposals fall far short of the fresh thinking required. In discussing the need for a treaty to ban all underground tests, he sticks to the conventional State Department position on inspections, though technological progress has made detection possible down to magnitudes too small to be of any military significance. The main element missing in the speech, which ranges widely but timidly over many questions, is Vietnam. There can be no new approaches to Peking, no new agreement with Moscow, while we humiliate both by slowly bombing one of their satellites to pieces. Here, too, he did not dare follow the Pope's plea that all human quarrels be settled "not by violence, not by war." Even our devout seem more awed by the B-52 than the Cross.

Speaking of Inhumanity

"Man, though he may be accused of inhumanity by waging war, has nevertheless sought throughout history to establish certain rules of conduct which would distinguish him from the beast. The prevailing code is incorporated in the Geneva Convention. North Vietnam, a party to this convention, has shamelessly and publicly violated it by executing two more uniformed American soldiers. Its conduct once more reveals the ugly nature of the enemy."

—N. Y. Herald Tribune, Sept. 29.

"We just rode Nuongs. You can tell that by the wire here," he said. 'Why?' he was asked. Nuongs are Chinese mercenaries from Formosa. A battalion of them are in Vietnam, collecting good salaries fighting for the Saigon government. One of them works as a guard at the United States embassy in Saigon. 'They always want the wire for the prisoners,' the kid said, 'Don't you know that? They get a VC and make him hold his hands against his cheeks. Then they take this wire and run it through the one hand and right through his cheek and into his mouth. Then they pull the wire out through the other cheek and stick it through the other hand. They knot both ends around sticks. You never seen them with prisoners like that? Oh, you ought to see how quiet them gooks sit in a helicopter when we get them wrapped up like that."

—Jimmy Breslin, Danang, opposite page, same day.

How We Shot A Loyal Deaf Mute Boy And Then Listed Him As A Captured Viet Cong

"Saigon—However well the war is going at the moment, the American high command seems unable to speak with candor on battle activity, even after the battle is over.

"In a routine resupply of a company by two armored tractors carrying ten men, the first Amtrac ran over a Vietcong mine and blew up. Of the four men on the lead Amtrac, one burned to death in the resulting fire and the other three were burned or wounded. In retrieving the burned ones from the Amtrac, the crew of the second Amtrac and a handful of other Marines were clustered together. And a second mine was detonated electrically by a lurking Vietcong. Four more Marines were wounded . . . But the action was not even in the Marine Headquarters nightly communique to the press. It was added in a supplementary paragraph only after this correspondent, having witnessed the incident, complained. In the belated codicil, casualties were described as light. Eight men dead or wounded out of about 15 Marines involved! . . .

"Even more evasive in the same communique was this item: 'One Vietcong was captured five miles southeast of Danang late today (Sept. 16). After two attempts to escape, a Marine shot him in the leg. He was evacuated and given military aid.' Fact is, this is not the version given to me by the captain in charge of intelligence for the Marine unit involved. The village chief—the government representative whom the Marines were guarding against Vietcong assassination—identified the boy after the shooting as not a Vietcong. He was a deaf-mute son of a loyal village couple."

—Jack Foisie, Los Angeles Times, Oct. 3.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

HEW and Justice Department Dragging Their Heels on Equal Rights

(*Continued from Page One*)

jungle in which the Negro and his white sympathizers are fair game for any white hunter. The Haynesville, Ala., trial in which the slayer of Jonathan Daniels was acquitted is only the latest in such denials of justice. More offensive than the crass injustice was the complacency of Attorney General Katzenbach in commenting on the acquittal, "This is the price you have to pay for the jury system, but I don't think it is too high a price to pay." The jury system is supposed to represent the community. These lily-white Southern juries merely represent the white supremacists. More than 75% of the people in Lowndes County, where the trial took place, are Negroes, but Negroes rarely serve on juries there. How can the Attorney General be so smug?

Katzenbach's Reluctant Registrars

It was not surprising to find that Katzenbach was the target of angry criticism at the long promised hearing before the "Special Equal Rights Committee" of the Democratic National Committee here a week ago. Every Negro group from the Urban League on the right to the MFDP on the left agreed for once—in criticizing the Attorney General's reluctance to send Federal registrars into the South. Clarence Mitchell of the NAACP complained that he had personally sent more than 500 voter registration complaints to Katzenbach in the past two months with little result. Though the necessary number of complaints has been filed from half of Mississippi's 82 counties, registrars have been sent only to nine. Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., of ADA, himself a member of the hearing committee, told reporters afterward that Katzenbach is opposed to Federal registrars on principle. "He was dragged in kicking and screaming to the acceptance of registrars," Rauh said. Though their appointment was advocated by the Civil Rights Commission as early as 1960, Justice Department held out against them until the murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo left it no choice.

The Justice Department is dragging its heels on voter registrars while the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is dragging its heels on the power given it to enforce school desegregation by cutting off school funds. Where white racists in the North, as in Chicago, put on the heat, the Department quickly caves in. But all over the South it has ignored Negro protests and accepted not only "tokenism" but "freedom of choice" plans that continue segregation. This is what lies behind the Crawfordsville, Georgia, demonstrations. There the whites have "freedom of choice" to attend all-white schools outside the county while the Negroes have "freedom of choice" to go on attending rundown Negro schools. But HEW is still "studying" the situation. The Department announced with fanfare that all but 80 of the 5,000 Southern school districts had begun desegregation. But a detailed study by SNCC shows that 92% of all Negro children in the 11 Southern States are still attending segregated schools. Negroes are being shot at, losing jobs and beaten up for trying to attend white schools, as they are for trying to register, yet somehow HEW and Justice do little more than "study" these situations. The black man can study, too. He knows from a century of experience the capacity of white supremacists to nullify equal rights legislation. A volcanic bitterness is building up. U.S. troops, instead of being in Vietnam, ought to be protecting Negroes trying to register and to attend integrated schools. This would really be enforcing self-determination.

Only in America

"Birmingham, Ala.—A traffic accident in which a Negro man was left at the scene by a white ambulance driver has prompted a Birmingham City Council vote to strike a race clause from city ambulance contracts coming up for renewal Tuesday. Officials said the driver, Owen Tellett, refused to take the victim, Joe Bruce, 63, a Negro, to a hospital after Bruce's legs were severed in an automobile accident Wednesday. Bruce died later. The manager of the ambulance service, Ed Emmett, said Tollett had been fired because of the incident. The clause the council decided to strike from the new contracts states that the white ambulance service is not obligated to pick up Negroes. A contract with a Negro ambulance service stated it was not obligated to pick up whites."

—Though this was an AP dispatch the only paper in which we saw it was the York, Pa., Gazette. Most papers didn't seem to think it newsworthy.

***In Reply to Friendly Inquiries:** Dr. Samuel Rosen's mobilization of stapes operation miraculously restored hearing in my left ear as it did last year in my right.—IFS*

I. F. Stone's Weekly 5618 Nebraska Ave., N. W. Washington, D. C. 20015

Please renew (or enter) a sub for the enclosed $5:

Name .....

Street .....

City .....Zone.....State.....

10/18/65

For the enclosed $5 send a gift sub to:

(To) Name .....

Street .....

City .....Zone.....State.....

For $5.35 extra send I. F. Stone's *The Haunted Fifties*

Indicate if announcement wished ☐

I. F. Stone's Weekly
5618 Nebraska Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20015

NEWSPAPER

Second class postage paid at Washington, D. C.

I. F. Stone's Weekly. Second Class Postage Paid at Washington, D. C. Published every Monday except in August, the last week in December and the first week in January and Bi-Weekly during July at 5618 Nebraska Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. An independent weekly published and edited by I. F. Stone; Circulation Manager, Esther M. Stone. Subscription: $5 in the U.S.; $6 in Canada; $10 elsewhere. Air Mail rates: $15 to Europe; $20 to Israel, Asia and Africa.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED